

Message Text

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15

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 INSE-00 SCA-01

EUR-12 /041 W

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R 210219Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1724

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, UNHCR

SUBJ: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: BOAT CASES: UNHCR

1. UNHCR OFFICIAL NORITA V. FRASER (ASSISTANT TO SAMPAT KUMAR) ARRIVED TODAY (AUGUST 20) FROM KUALA LUMPUR AND CALLED ON THE CONGEN TO REVIEW INDOCHINESE REFUGEES SITUATION IN HONG KONG.

2. MS. FRASER SAID SHE WOULD REMAIN IN HONG KONG UNTIL AUGUST 26 DURING WHICH TIME SHE WOULD VISIT REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN THE HOPE OF SECURING ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS FOR RESETTLEMENT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES STILL REMAINING IN HONG KONG. AT ONE POINT, SHE EXPRESSED HER CONCERN THAT IF THERE WERE NOT SUFFICIENT MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES, THE HKG MIGHT AGAIN BE RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT FUTURE BOAT CASES.

3. CONGEN NOTED THAT GERMANY RECENTLY INDICATED AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT 15 (POSSIBLY 19) REFUGEES, THEREBY BEING THE THIRD COUNTRY IN HONG KONG TO EXPRESS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT REFUGEES FROM THE MOST RECENT BOAT CASES.

EXPANDING UPON THIS IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT AS THE CURRENT USG REFUGEE PROGRAMS FOR INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ARE COMING TO AN END, IT WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE REFUGEES TO SERIOUSLY EXPLORE RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ELSEWHERE THAN THE USA. IT WAS ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT THE USG COULD NOT

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ACCEPT REFUGEES WHO HAVE RECEIVED AND REJECTED RESETTLEMENT

OFFERS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.

4. COMMENT: NOW THAT THE GERMANS ARE JOINING THE FRENCH
AND CANADIANS IN THE ACCEPTANCE OF BOAT CASE REFUGEES, THE
PROGRAM HAS BECOME REASONABLY INTERNATIONALIZED. WHEN THE
USG FINALLY ADDS ITS EFFORTS, THE CURRENT PROBLEM SHOULD BE WELL
ON THE WAY TO BEING RESOLVED, LEAVING HONG KONG BETTER DIS-
POSED TO ANY FUTURE BOAT CASES.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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